

STEERING, LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

November 3, 2014

5:30 p.m.

Courthouse

MINUTES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Paul Johnson  
Commissioner Allen McAdoo  
Commissioner Robert Peay  
Commissioner Jeff Phillips  
Commissioner Robert Stevens  
Commissioner Brad Turner  
Commissioner Trey Gooch, C

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ernest Burgess  
Michael Gregory  
Anthony Tuggle  
Sonya Stephenson  
Susan Allen  
Becky Shelton

Chairman Gooch presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all members being present at that time.

MINUTES:

"Commissioner Turner moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to approve the minutes of the last meeting as mailed. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

ANNOUNCE ALTERNATE VACANCY ON BEER BOARD:

Chairman Gooch advised an alternate position on the Beer Board was being announced.

ANNOUNCE VACANCIES ON AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD:

Chairman Gooch advised the Commissioner, Farmer and Farm Woman positions on the Agricultural Advisory Board were being announced. The positions are currently held by Commissioner Joe Frank Jernigan, Farmer Anthony Scales and Farm Woman Delia Goodman.

ANNOUNCE CORONER VACANCY:

Chairman Gooch advised the Coroner position was being announced. It is currently held by Mike Nunley.

ANNOUNCE TWO VACANCIES ON CORRECTIONAL WORK CENTER BOARD:

Chairman Gooch advised the positions of Thomas Hartley and Virgil Gammon on the Correctional Work Center Board were expiring and accordingly being announced.

ANNOUNCE VACANCY ON CONSERVATION BOARD TO FILL UNEXPIRED TERM OF DAVID MITCHELL:

Chairman Gooch advised David Mitchell has tendered his resignation from the Conservation Board and this position was accordingly being announced. The position expires February, 2017.

REVISIONS TO PAWS RULES & REGULATIONS:

Michael Gregory, Director of PAWS, addressed the Committee presenting the revised PAWS Rules & Regulations. The Committee was advised the Rules & Regulations had been presented at the Public Safety Committee in detail with unanimous approval. The Rules & Regulations will require a two-third vote at the Commission to be sent on to the Legislature and will require a two-third vote when received back from the Legislature. The Committee was advised the General Sessions Judges could not enforce the prior Rules & Regulations because it did not have penalties. The Rules & Regulations as presented establish an animal offender school at PAWS and puts in a time frame for dangerous dog requirements. The Committee questioned

the liability of the County when dealing with a dangerous dog.

Mr. Gregory advised Davidson County has an Environmental Court with a Magistrate Judge that handles its animal cases. This is convenient for the animal services officers. The Rules & Regulations as presented do not specifically provide for such a Court and the Committee discussed crafting language to provide for and not have to go back to the Legislature at a future date. Mayor Burgess advised Mr. Gregory could get with the County Attorney to draft language and see if the local Judges would be willing to do this. Mr. Gregory advised once a month or bi-weekly would be beneficial to his department's work load. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Stevens moved, seconded by Commissioner Phillips, to recommend approval with language to have the option to establish an Environmental Court to hear specific cases for animal control. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

#### ANNUAL MEETING WITH LEGISLATORS:

The Committee discussed the annual meeting with the Legislators and when to hold the same. It was decided someone needed to find out when the session starts because last year it turned out the Legislators had to have a quick meeting because they had to get to Nashville for a meeting. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner McAdoo, to tentatively set the annual meeting with the Legislators for January 5 but talk to the Legislators on when the session starts and if there is any conflict with January 5. If there is a conflict, Chairman Gooch is able to move the date as needed. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

#### FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION ON INSURANCE COMMITTEE:

At the last Steering Committee meeting, Commissioner Turner requested information on the make-up of the Insurance Committee and this information was provided for Committee use. The Committee was advised the Insurance Committee reviews changes to insurance, sets rates, takes bids, reviews and makes recommendations, handles the EAP, life insurance, OSHA regulations, wellness program and on-site clinics. All recommendations of the Insurance Committee go to the Budget Committee and on to the Commission for approval.

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Gooch declared the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

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TREY GOOCH, Chairman